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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3801
INFO RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 9677
RUESMG/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 8749
RUEHSN/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR 8761
RUEHTG/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA 8083
RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY BELIZE 0511
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 0873
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 01736

STATE FOR ARA, S/LPD, AND H

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (GUTIERREZ, CARLOS JOSE), CS
SUBJECT: COSTA RICA SEEKS CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR
- BIPARTISAN AID PLAN FOR CENTRAL AMERICA

REF: SAN JOSE 1711 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, FOREIGN MINISTER GUTIERREZ FLEW TO WASHINGTON SUNDAY, MARCH 4, IN HOPES OF MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PRIOR TO ITS MARKUP OF FY 85/FY 84 SUPPLEMENTAL FOREIGN AID AUTHORIZATION, SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY. GUTIERREZ VIEWS MEETING WITH REP. BARNES OR REP. FASCELL, AND PREFERABLY BOTH, AS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL IF EFFORT INVESTED IN THE TRIP - INCLUDING CANCELLING HIS APPOINTMENTS HERE FOR MONDAY AND TUESDAY - IS TO BE WORTHWHILE.

2. GUTIERREZ TOLD CHARGE THAT HE MADE THE DECISION TO GO TO WASHINGTON AFTER CONSULTING WITH PRESIDENT MONGE, WHO TOLD HIM THAT IF THERE WAS ANY CHANCE OF REVERSING THE DISASTROUS CUTS AND CRIPPLING AMENDMENTS EFFECTED BY THE BARNES SUBCOMMITTEE, HE SHOULD GO. GUTIERREZ SAID THIS WEEK'S TRIP DID NOT AFFECT HIS PLAN TO BE IN WASHINGTON AGAIN MARCH 12 FOR OAS MEETING AND TO MAKE ADDITIONAL CONGRESSIONAL CALLS JOINTLY WITH HONDURAN FORMIN PAZ BARNICA.

3. GUTIERREZ INVITED RODRIGO MADRIGAL, CHAIRMAN OF THE COSTA RICAN COUNTERPART TO THE NBCCA, TO ACCOMPANY HIM MARCH 4, BUT MADRIGAL WAS ILL AND COULD NOT. HOWEVER, MADRIGAL TOLD CHARGE THAT PRESIDENT MONGE HAD CALLED HIM IN TWO WEEKS AGO, TOLD HIM OF REPORTS HE HAD FROM AMBASSADOR WINSOR OF TOUGH SLEDDING ON THE HILL, AND ASKED MADRIGAL TO GO TO WASHINGTON TOGETHER WITH SOME OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS COMMISSION. MADRIGAL SAID HE WAS PLANNING THAT

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TRIP FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 26, BUT COULD CHANGE
THE DATES IF SOME OTHER TIMING WOULD BE BETTER IN
TERMS OF KEY VOTES ON THE AUTHORIZATION BILL.

4. POINT IS THAT DESPITE (OR BECAUSE OF) ITS PRESSING
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, GOCR IS MAKING MAJOR EFFORT TO
ASSIST THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION ON AID TO CENTRAL
AMERICA. JONES
END OF MESSAGE

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